

- generating a definition of an outer boundary line of at least one of the image regions;
  - transmitting said definition to the receiver;
  - transmitting the compressed bit stream to the receiver; and
  - decoding in the receiver with the aid of said definition
2. The method of claim 1, wherein two different image regions are coded to have said predetermined accuracy levels independently of each other.
3. A method of transmitting an image between a transmitter and a receiver, comprising the steps of:
- dividing the image into at least two image regions;
  - coding the image regions into a coded symbol stream, said coding utilising a symbolic representation and having predetermined accuracy levels in said image regions;
  - compressing the coded symbol stream into a compressed bit stream;
  - generating a definition of a mask for at least one of the image regions, two different image regions being encoded to have said predetermined accuracy levels independently of each other;
  - transmitting said definition to the receiver;
  - transmitting the compressed bit stream to the receiver; and
  - decoding in the receiver with the aid of said definition.
- 506 74. The method of claim 1, 2, or 3, wherein only predetermined parts of the compressed bit stream are decoded.
5. The method of any of the claims 1, 2, or 3, further comprising generating a topology description, defining the topological relationship between objects and shapes in the image.
6. The method of any of the claims 1, 2, or 3, further comprising generating a shape description,

defining the appearance of the closed boundary line of an object in the image.

7. The method of any of the claims 1, 2, or 3, further comprising generating a segment description, defining which transform coefficients that belong to respective segment.
8. The method of claim 7, further comprising generating a subset description, defining which transform coefficients that belong to an independently decodable part of a segment.
9. The method of claim 8, further comprising generating a pointer, defining a position in the bit stream for the respective one of the above mentioned descriptions.
10. An arrangement for transmitting an image, comprising:
  - a transmitter and a receiver;
  - means for dividing the image into at least two image regions;
  - a coding device for coding the image regions into a coded symbol stream, said coding device utilising a symbolic representation and having predetermined accuracy levels in said regions;
  - a compressing device for compressing the coded symbol stream into a compressed bit stream; and
  - means in the transmitter for transmitting said compressed bit stream to the receiver;
  - means for generating a definition of an outer boundary line of at least one of the image regions;
  - means in the transmitter for transmitting said definition to the receiver; and
  - a decoder in the receiver for decoding of the compressed bit stream with the aid of said definition.
11. The arrangement of claim 10, wherein the coding device is arranged to encode two different image regions to have the predetermined accuracy levels independent of each other.

12. An arrangement for transmitting an image, comprising:

- a transmitter and a receiver;
- means for dividing the image into at least two image regions
- a coding device for coding the image regions into a coded symbol stream, said coding device utilising a symbolic representation and having predetermined accuracy levels in said regions;
- a compressing device for compressing the coded symbol stream into a compressed bit stream;
- means in the transmitter for transmitting said compressed bit stream to the receiver;
- means for generating a definition of a mask for at least one of the image regions, the coding device being arranged to encode two different of the image regions to have said predetermined accuracy levels independently of each other;
- means in the transmitter for transmitting said definition to the receiver; and
- a decoder in the receiver for decoding of the compressed bit stream with the aid of said definition.

506 61 7 13. The arrangement of claim 10, 11, or 12, wherein the decoder is arranged to decode only predetermined parts of the compressed bit stream.

14. The arrangement of claim 10, 11, or 12, wherein the transmitter has means for generating a topology description, defining the topological relationship between objects and shapes in the image.

15. The arrangement of claim 10, 11, or 12, wherein the transmitter has means for generating a shape description, defining the appearance of the closed boundary line of an object in the image.

16. The arrangement of claim 10, 11, or 12, wherein the transmitter has means for generating a